

September 2nd 1969

St. Albans v Wycombe

# WANDERERS ARE OUTPLAYED A THE SAINTS SLAM THREE

St. Albans City 3, Wycombe Wanderers 0

TUESDAY night's reversal at Clarence Park served to highlight two of the basic weaknesses that Wycombe Wanderers must eradicate if they are to maintain a place in the upper sphere of this season's Isthmian League.

One is the poor quality of passing and the other the lack of support given to players when in possession.

Wycombe entered the match with very positive intentions, recalling Vince Faulkner and Charlie Gale into their line up.

Faulkner was used "up front" where it was felt that the attack needed a little more weight, and also Tony Horseman needed support.

## PATTERN

The pattern of the game soon became established—with St. Albans playing the ball very accurately into tight situations to their front runners, while Wycombe relied on a much longer passing.

After seven minutes, having worked the ball cleverly into the Wycombe area, St. Albans scored. A ricochet off a Wycombe defender left Butterfield with an easy scoring chance.

Wycombe retaliated strongly and a series of corners resulted in Rundle going very close with a header.

As in previous matches, Wycombe's aerial superiority at set pieces was proving disconcerting to their opponents.

With minutes to go before the interval John Maskell was forced to pull off the save of the match. Turley was allowed to turn in the Wycombe area and fired in a tremendous shot, which Maskell, flinging himself to his left pushed over.

The resulting corner was cleared, but Hatt, attempting a back pass from midfield, hit the ball inaccurately and Child rounded the despairing Maskell to score St. Albans second.

## DETERMINED

Wycombe started the second half in determined fashion, but faded after a fifth minute attempt by Delaney had been cleared off the line.

The Wanderers team could not match the magnificent lateral running of the home forwards, who time and again created numerical superiority on the Wycombe flanks.

Halfway through the second-half the game dropped in tempo with St. Alban's shutting the game up and Wycombe, the ubiquitous Baker excepted, unable to break the strangle-hold.

In the 82nd minute, however, St. Alban's scored their third goal. Childs ran the ball through to the goal line and his low hard cross was pushed home by Butterfield.

The game then finished as it had started with Maskell being forced into a flurry of activity.

St. Albans: A. Mackie; D. Lawrence, P. Wood; L. Burgess, D. Gibbs, D. Neville; W. Broomfield, W. Ratty, A. Turley; R. Childs, J. Butterfield.

Wycombe: J. Maskell; I. Rundle, C. Gale; J. Lailey, J. Delaney, R. Hatt; L. Worley, B. Baker, V. Faulkner, A. Horseman, G. Anthony. Sub: K. Ward.